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**Patent** 

## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On p. 15 of the specification, please replace the first complete paragraph with the paragraph on the following page.

Patent

A further modification of the foregoing echo canceller system relates to the value stored as  $E_{max}$  at the instant of tap coefficient transfer. Instead of setting  $E_{max}$  equal to the  $\hat{E}$  value at the transfer instant,  $E_{max}$  may be set to a value equal to the value of  $\hat{E}$  minus a constant value (e.g., one, three, or 6 dB). At no time, however, should the  $E_{max}$  value be set to a value that is below the lower bound value for  $E_{max}$ . Additionally, a further condition may be imposed in that a new softened  $E_{max}$  is not less than the prior value of  $E_{max}$ . The foregoing "softening" of the  $E_{max}$  value increases the number of transfers that occur and, further, provides more decision-making weight to the condition of  $\hat{E}$  being larger than  $\hat{E}$ . Further details with respect to the operation of the echo canceller coefficient transfer process are set forth and in the co-pending patent application titled "ECHO CANCELLER HAVING THE IMPROVED TAP COEFFICIENT TRANSFER", (Atterney Docket No. —) filed on even date herewith November 14, 1997, Serial No. 08/970.230, now U.S. Patent No. 6.181,793 B1.

Patent

On p. 19 of the specification, please replace the first paragraph with the paragraph on the following page.

Patent

A still further manner of detecting a double-talk condition is set forth in U.S.S.N. \_\_\_\_\_ Serial No. 08/971,116, now U.S. Patent No. 6,266,409 B1, titled \_\_\_\_ "ECHO CANCELLER EMPLOYING DUAL-H ARCHITECTURE HAVING IMPROVED DOUBLE-TALK"

(Atterney Docket No. \_\_\_\_), filed on November 14, 1997, the teachings of which are hereby incorporated by reference. As set forth in that patent application, a double-talk condition is declared based on certain monitored filtered performance parameters.